

Remarks

Claims 1-60 are pending in the application. Claims 1-60 are cancelled herein. Claims 61-73 are newly presented. No new matter is added.

Claims 1 and 8 - 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over “PPP EAP TLS Authentication Protocol,” Aboba, et al (Aboba) in view of “Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (RADIUS),” Rigney, et al., (Rigney).

Claims 1 and 8-17 are cancelled herein.

Claims 19, 21, 28-39, 41 and 48-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aboba and Rigney in further view of How Networks Work, Derfler, et al., (Derfler).

Claims 19, 21, 28-39, 41 and 48-59.

In new claims 61-73, an unauthorized client device and a wireless access point mutually authenticate to produce an authenticated client device and a key. Then, a user of the authenticated client device is authenticated to an authentication server using the key.

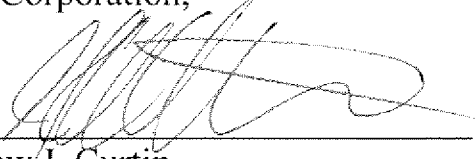
The combination of prior art applied by the Examiner to the now cancelled claims 1-60 teaches only authentication between client devices with authentication servers. The same is true with users to authentication servers. There is no suggestion that an unauthenticated client devices mutually

authenticates with a wireless access point to produce an authenticated client device by which a user may be authenticated by an authentication server.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should further questions arise concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 50-3650.

Respectfully submitted,
3Com Corporation,

By



Andrew J. Curtin
Attorney for the Assignee
Reg. No. 48,485

350 Campus Drive
Marlborough, MA 01752
Telephone: (508) 323-1330
Customer No. 56436